

DA Visit to Region 7 Senior Staff Lunch Discussion

West Lake Landfill *(Cecilia Tapia: Superfund Division Director)*

- The Westlake Superfund site in suburban St. Louis is about 1000 ft from the St. Louis Airport's main runway. EPA designated it as an NPL site in 1990.
- This 200 acre closed landfill handled municipal solid waste from the 1950's to approximately 2005. In the 1970's leached barium sulfate residues were mixed with daily cover used at the landfill. The residues derived from uranium ore processing were generated by Atomic Energy Commission contractors.
- EPA Region 7's Record of Decision in 2008 selected capping as the Remedial Alternative. Some community members have long pushed for excavation and disposal of the 40 acres of contaminated waste out of state. EPA OSWER directed Region 7 in 2010 to reconsider the Remedial Alternative.
- EPA Region 7 directed the PRPs to conduct further evaluations of alternatives for addressing the waste. The PRPs have concluded a complete excavation evaluation and are in the process of assessing a partial excavation alternative.

Strong Cities, Strong Communities (SC2) *(Karl Brooks and Mark Hague: RA and DRA)*

- St. Louis was selected to receive assistance under the Strong Cities, Strong Communities Initiative (SC2). EPA was designated as the lead federal agency for the project. We will be designating a staff lead for this project, who will be "embedded" in the Mayor's office. As lead federal agency, EPA will be in an excellent position to serve as a liaison between St. Louis city offices (Mayor, Sustainability, Planning, Economic Development, etc.) and other stakeholders both public and private.
- We view this as an exciting opportunity to strengthen our existing sustainable community partnerships across the federal family.
- St. Louis has expressed interest in utilizing SC2 support to help maintain momentum on the North Side Regeneration project. This project includes the efforts of Paul McKee, a local developer who has plans for redeveloping approximately 1,500 acres of property on the northside of the city including the former Pruitt-Igoe housing development.
- Mayor Slay indicated the city plans to work with McKee and take a comprehensive redevelopment approach which would consider community wealth building, improving education, reducing crime and improving housing in this area. One of the goals is also to make the redevelopment as sustainable as possible with a zero carbon footprint as the ultimate goal.
- Region 7 is working closely with the White House SC2 Council and OCIR on getting a federal team on the ground in St. Louis later this Spring.

Efficiencies in Action *(Becky Weber: Air and Waste Management Division Director)*

- The Region 7 Air SIP LEAN event has resulted in a change in doing business with our States and laid the groundwork for Region 7's role in the overall SIP Reform efforts nationally. The recent PM SIP submittal for Muscatine, Iowa, provides a real time example for early collaboration with the State, a focus on emission reductions, and the anticipated fast track processing of the SIP.
- Such air processing efficiencies are important to ensure resources available to meet our ambitious 4 year

SIP backlog plans. Region 7 piloted the 4 year planning approach that all the Regions will submit by April 2014. Region 7 utilize a team approach to addressing SIP challenges and Skills Marketplace and cross division details are essential to meeting our goals.

- Last year, the corrective action waste program also embraced LEAN with a joint effort with Region 3, States, OSWER, industry and consultants. The focus of the event was the investigation phase known to take on average over 10 years and as much as 20 years. The new process shows over a 70% savings in time.

Superfund Site Assessment Post VERA/VSIP

(Cecilia Tapia: Superfund Division Director, Curtis Carey: Office of Public Affairs Director)

The Region 7 Superfund Division is losing approximately 17 staff. As a result the Division is prioritizing work as follows:

- Priority shall be given to sites on the NPL, active Removal sites and sites where the Agency has obligations under existing Orders.
- To continue working on those sites with the highest human health risks, we will be disinvesting resources assigned to non-NPL sites. In addition, we will ensure all sites referred to us for removal action consideration will have exhausted all other state response mechanisms
- Communication to community and state stakeholders, with OSWER and OPA assistance, will need to be developed.